



Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	Potential Winter Weather
Date	January 10, 2015
Time	1200
Operational Period	January 10, 2015
Report Number	#4

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	Statewide
DDCs Active	DDC 12

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

Light freezing rain and sleet were occurring from the Permian Basin through the Hill Country this morning, but will end by late this morning as temperatures warm. Precipitation shifts northeast tonight and transitions back to a sleet, freezing rain and rain mix over Northeast Texas. Accumulations remain less than .10 of an inch. Temperatures will warm up on Sunday into Monday. Another round of wintry weather is expected Tuesday into Wednesday; however only light amounts of snow will be possible in the Panhandle and South Plains Tuesday. Light freezing rain, sleet and snow will be possible across North Texas Tuesday night. Wednesday through will be dry.

Due to current and forecast weather conditions, the State Operations Center (SOC) will return to Level IV (Normal Conditions) effective at noon this afternoon, 10 January 2015.



Precipitation Continues Tonight...



Tonight – “Worst Case” Ice Accumulations



DFW-Specific Forecast



- Monday:

- Cloudy, with highs in the mid 40s
- North winds 10-15mph, with gusts to 20mph



Region 1

NWS Fort Worth: Some light precipitation will spread north into North Central Texas from the southwest today. This precipitation will be light sleet, light freezing rain, or light rain depending on the temperatures in your area. There is the potential for light icing of bridges and overpasses southwest of a Comanche to Waco line this morning. Elsewhere, precipitation will not be significant enough for any travel concerns or impacts. As the day progresses, temperatures will warm sufficiently for a transition to just light rain showers area-wide. Areas of rain are expected across much of North Texas tonight and into Sunday. Temperatures may briefly drop to below freezing during this time which would result in some light freezing rain. Temperatures will not be terribly cold so any icing should be confined to elevated surfaces. Significant travel impacts are not expected.





NWS Shreveport: Light rain will develop over parts of East and Northeast Texas and spread to the east and northeast over parts of Northwest Louisiana in the afternoon and then area-wide. The rain will become mixed with freezing rain for areas along and near IH30, and a possible mix of rain and some sleet to near IH20 after midnight. Higher ice accumulation on trees, power lines, bridges and overpasses will taper north from along and near IH20. Ice accumulations of up to .10 of an inch will be possible through Sunday morning. Lighter accumulations farther south to the IH20 Corridor of East Texas and across north Louisiana are possible.

DDC 04 Garland (Includes Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall Counties)

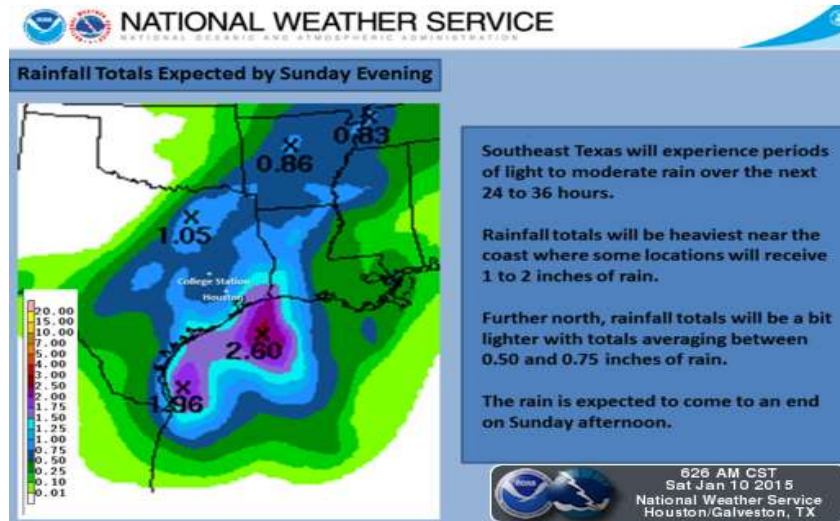
DFW Airport EOC will activate to "Watch Level" Saturday night until Sunday morning.

DDC 06 Tyler (Includes Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties)

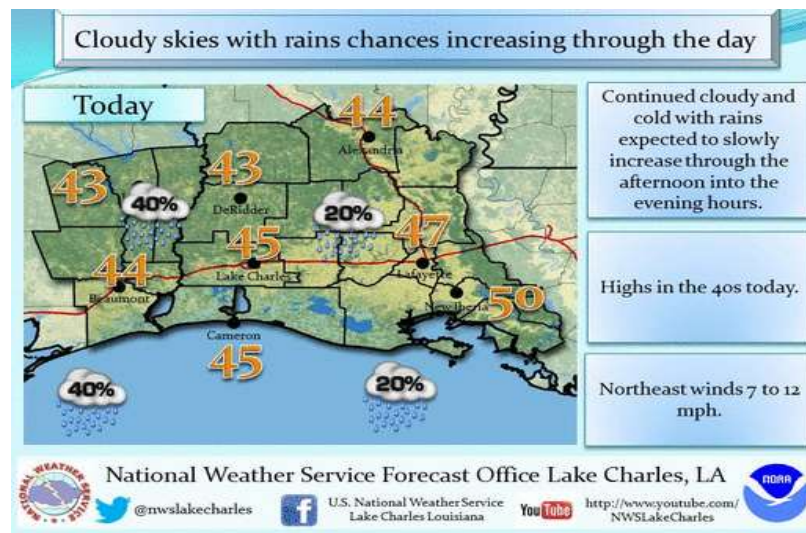
DC 06 Tyler continues to monitor weather forecast from NWS Fort Worth and NWS Shreveport for increasing severity or sudden changes affecting public safety. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) has been assisting Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) with traffic flow on IH20. Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) is on standby to assist, if requested. TxDOT Atlanta District pre-treated IH20 main lanes and bridges in Harrison County with brine, and treated United States (US) Highway 59 from Bowie to Panola County. TxDOT Tyler District pre-treated bridges on IH20 and also will be treating US69 and US259.

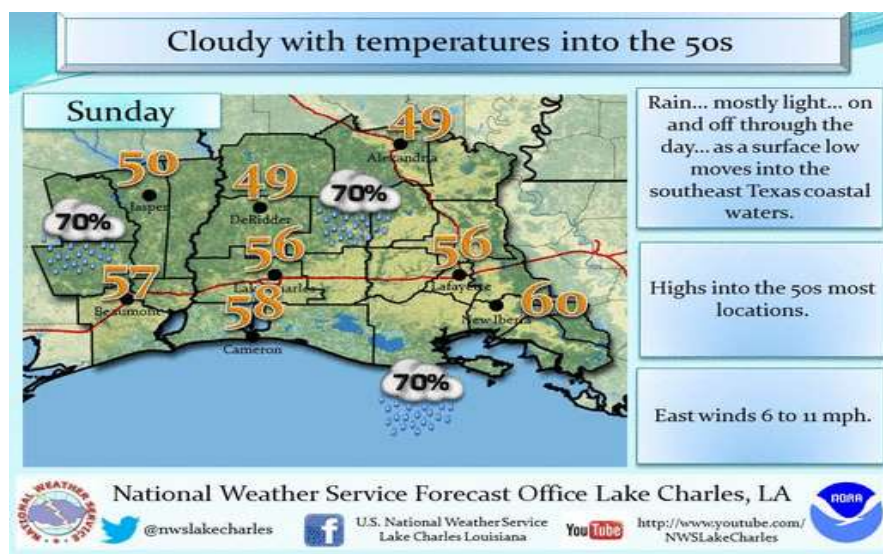
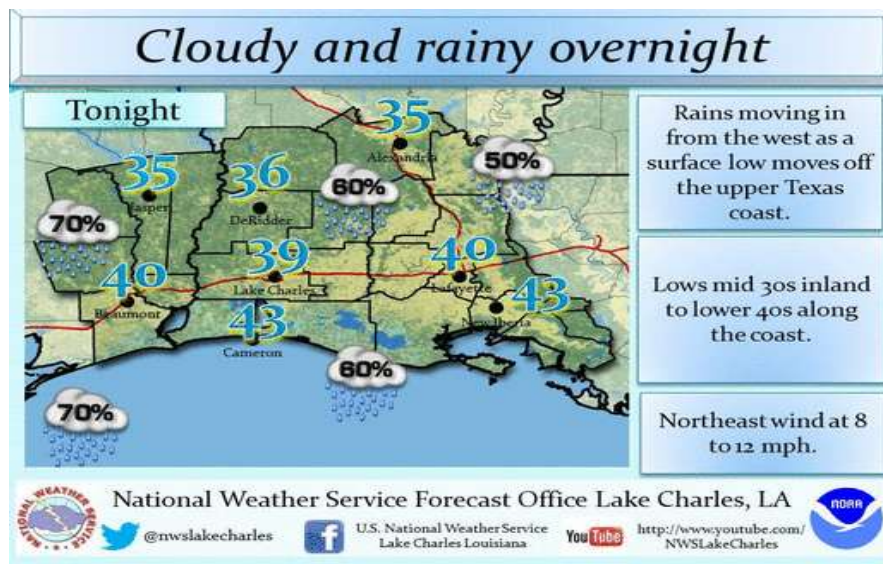
Region 2

NWS Houston/Galveston: Prepare for another drab, dreary and cold day. Rain will develop south of a Columbus to Galveston line between 9AM and noon. The rain will expand in coverage with most of Southeast Texas receiving rain during the afternoon. Rainfall amounts will average between .25 and .50 inches over the north and between .50 and 1.00 inch closer to the coast. Here is the expected rainfall over the next 36 hours. There could be some 1 to 2 inch rainfall totals near the coast by Sunday evening with .50 to .75 inch of rain over inland portions of Southeast Texas.



NWS Lake Charles: The forecast calls for cloudy skies today as rains begin to move back into the region from the west this Saturday afternoon through Saturday night. Rain is not expected to be heavy. Rain will continue into Sunday and Monday.



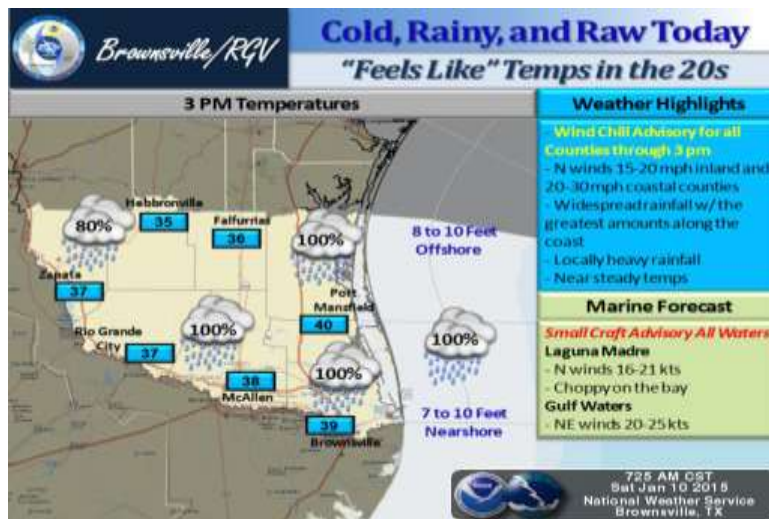


DDC 15 Beaumont (Includes Hardin, Orange and Jefferson Counties)

DDC 15 – DDC15 area of responsibility has not seen any freezing rain. Operations are normal throughout its jurisdiction. Temperatures as of 7:30AM Saturday morning were above freezing.

Region 3

NWS Brownsville: It will be a cold and wet start to the weekend. The day will start out with temperatures in the mid to upper 30s across the region and will stay in that range throughout the day. Breezy north winds will make temperatures feel a lot colder, with "feels like" temps in the mid to upper 20s. A *Wind Chill Advisory* is in effect through 3PM for all counties. Widespread rainfall is expected today, with the greatest accumulations along the coast. Locally heavy rainfall is possible, with ponding of water in poor drainage and low lying areas. If you venture out today, be sure to dress warmly, take an umbrella, and drive with caution on the wet roads.



NWS Corpus Christi: Areas of rain and drizzle are expected today. Rain could be mixed with sleet across the Coastal Bend this morning. Temperatures could also briefly approach the freezing mark across the northern Brush Country and extreme northern Coastal Bend this morning resulting in a few slick spots on elevated roadways. Wind chill values were in the low to mid-20s this morning. Monday will be warmer and drier across South Texas. Temperatures will still be slightly below normal, but highs will reach the upper 50s across the Victoria Crossroads, to lower 60s across the Coastal Bend to the Rio Grande Plains.





DDC 24 Del Rio (Includes Val Verde, Edwards, Kinney, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Zavala, Dimmit, and La Salle Counties)

The DDC reported that no warming stations in those counties that identified having warming stations have used them. There is minimal icing in Real, Edwards and northern Uvalde County.

Val Verde County: Val Verde County prepositioned blankets at the Comstock Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) to support a warming station, if needed.

Kinney County: Kinney County Sheriff's Office indicated that the civic center is available, if needed.

Maverick County: The city of Eagle Pass will open one, 30-person capacity warming station at 1400 Williams Street.

Region 4

NWS El Paso: A storm system exiting the area and moderating cold air will make for improving weather across the Borderland today. We will start cold and cloudy with chilly east winds and a lot of low clouds. However, through the day winds will turn more southerly and clouds will begin to break up. This will allow for a drier and warmer day. Temperatures will still top out below normal, but many locations will reach the 50-degree mark. Most of the region has no chance at any precipitation, but southern Hudspeth County may see a lingering early morning shower, and the Gila may see some high county light snow with a weak disturbance.

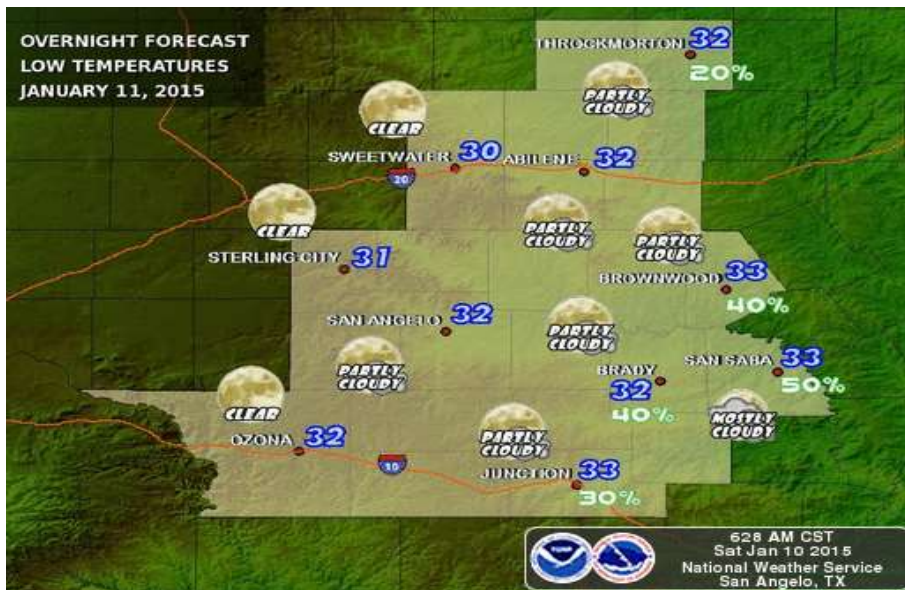


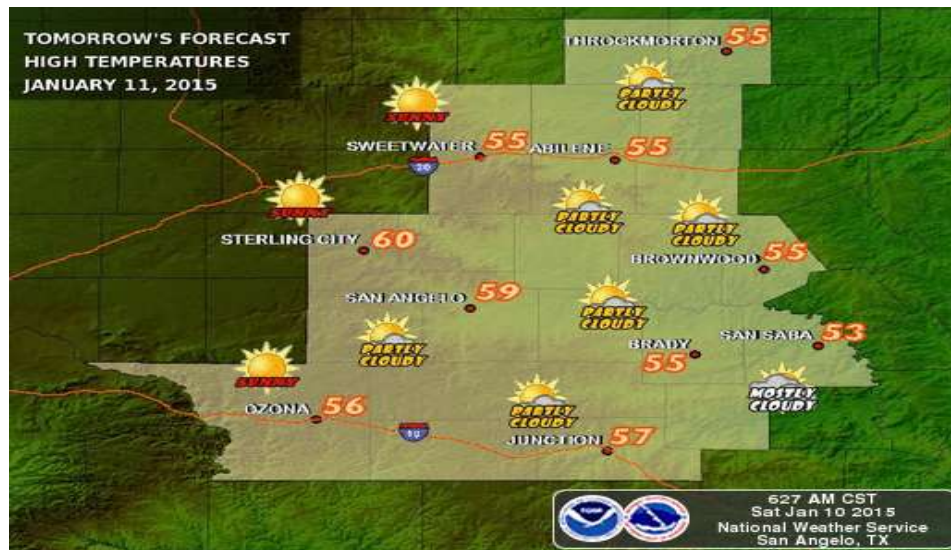
NWS Midland/Odessa: A wintry mix of light freezing rain, sleet, and snow is expected through 1 pm CST across much of the Texas Permian Basin including the IH20 Corridor. A *Winter Storm Warning* remains in effective through noon today. Hazardous driving conditions can be anticipated wherever ice accumulates! See 3rd and 4th graphics that follow, depicting forecast ice and snow accumulations.





NWS San Angelo: Temperatures were in the lower 20s overnight and into Saturday morning. A band of light precipitation continues along IH20. An area of freezing drizzle continued to the south across the Concho Valley. The greatest threat for accumulating ice or sleet will be across the Concho Valley and Big Country areas through noon, mainly on bridges, overpasses, and hilly areas. These light accumulations of ice may result in hazardous road conditions. An upper-level storm system will bring a chance for a wintry mix of mainly freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet to West Central Texas today into the weekend. Uncertainty remains in the forecast, but at this time accumulations are expected to be light. There could see a light mix of snow, sleet or freezing rain Saturday morning mainly across the southwestern areas, west of a Barnhart to Sonora line. Temperatures will warm above freezing by noon, with light rain possible for the afternoon. We are still looking at highs only in the 30s. Watch for patchy ice Saturday morning on bridges, overpasses, and hilly areas.





DDC 08 El Paso (Includes El Paso & Hudspeth Counties)

El Paso County: The El Paso Office of Emergency Management activated the El Paso City/County EOC. American Red Cross (ARC), The Salvation Army (TSA), school districts, utility companies, city public works, and county roads and bridges were made aware of the upcoming weather and will be on standby. TxDOT TransVista EOC maintained increased readiness until Saturday morning, due to possible precipitation and freezing temperatures forecast for the evening and overnight hours Friday into Saturday morning.

DDC 09 Fort Stockton (Includes Loving, Ward, Crane, Reeves, Upton, Pecos and Terrell Counties)

DDC 9 reported no major issues. Light snow and ice were reported early this morning; however there were no road issues. In Terrell County, there was light icing on roads and bridges and TxDOT is responding to work this issue. No shelters are open in DDC 09, and there are no reports of major vehicle accidents.

DDC 09 Midland (Includes Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Andrews, Martin, Howard, Winkler, Ector, Midland, and Glasscock Counties)

A poll of the area reveals that there are no shelters or warming shelters currently open. All areas are aware of the next wave of winter weather heading our way and they are monitoring it closely. Should the need for a shelter to be opened arise, they could open one on short notice. With very few exceptions, Oncor reported that almost all of the residential power has been restored in the area. None of the 240 distribution crews, 120 vegetation crews or 20 bull dozer crews have been released.

Region 5

DDC 03 Wichita Falls (Includes Hardeman, Baylor, Cottle, Foard, Wilbarger, Wichita, Archer, Clay, Montague, Jack and Young Counties)

DDC 3 Wichita Falls will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned in the eleven counties of the Wichita Falls Disaster District. American Red Cross (ARC) has shelters

identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures as necessary. The Salvation Army (TSA) located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures. Currently, there are no unmet needs or requests for assistance.

DDC 07 Abilene (Includes Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Stephens, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan, Eastland, Runnels, Coleman, Brown and Comanche Counties)

DDC 7 Abilene will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned throughout the district. American Red Cross has shelters identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. Local faith-based groups throughout the area will provide shelter as needed. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. TxDOT crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures beginning this evening and continuing through Thursday morning. The Salvation Army located at 1726 Butternut in Abilene has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures.

Roads are becoming slick in Fisher, Mitchell, Nolan, and Scurry Counties. No large accumulations of ice have been reported, but road conditions are being blamed for a number of vehicle crashes in these areas. There are no other impacts being reported and no unmet needs have been identified. Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) supported TxDOT Districts Brownwood and Abilene with 4 all-wheel drive motor graders and personnel. TxDOT has released those assets back to TFS.

Region 6

NWS Austin/San Antonio: A *Winter Storm Warning* remains in effect for the Hill Country and along the Escarpment portions of Highway 90 and the IH35 Corridor through midnight tonight. A *Winter Weather Advisory* is in effect for areas immediately east of IH35 through noon today. Below freezing temperatures will maintain areas of freezing rain and sleet today. The area of greatest concern for ice accumulations will be across the Hill Country and along the Balcones Escarpment, or along and north of a Del Rio to San Antonio to Austin to Georgetown line, where between .10 and .25 of an inch of ice will be possible. Ice accumulations are expected on both elevated and non- elevated roadways and surfaces, leading to hazardous travel conditions. Across the advisory area, between a trace to .10 of an inch of ice is possible, mainly on elevated bridges and overpasses. Above freezing temperatures across southern areas this morning will slowly spread north changing the freezing rain and sleet to all rain this afternoon into early evening. Continue to closely monitor the forecast as minor changes could lead to additional impacts. Expect .10 to .25 of an inch of ice accumulation across parts of the Edwards Plateau and Hill Country. Lesser amounts are expected south of the escarpment. A Winter Weather Warning is in effect across the pink shaded area through midnight tonight.



DDC 12 Austin (Includes Burnet, Llano, Blanco, Hays, Lee, Bastrop, Lee, Fayette, Caldwell, Travis, and Williamson Counties)

DDC 12 is at Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) and monitoring weather conditions. TxDOT Austin District pretreated northbound and southbound IH35 through Williamson, Travis and Hays Counties.

Bastrop County: Bastrop County EOC is active at Level III (Increased Readiness).

City of Austin/Travis County: All Austin Community College (ACC) Campuses are closed Saturday, 10 January 2015, due to winter weather. ACC Campuses will reopen on Monday, 12 January 2015. No closures or delays are currently scheduled for Travis County, University of Texas Austin, or Austin ISD.

Hays County: Hays County Office of Emergency Management conducted a Winter Weather Conference Call at 2PM Friday afternoon.

Williamson County: Williamson County Office of Emergency Management conducted a 3:30PM Winter Weather Conference Call Friday afternoon.

DDC 11/23 Waco (Includes Bosque, Hill, Freestone, Hamilton, Mills, Coryell, Limestone, McLennan, San Saba, Lampasas, Bell, Falls and Milam Counties)

DDC Waco continues to monitor actively weather conditions and impacts. This includes communications via State conference calls, local conference calls and direct interaction with TxDOT and local jurisdictions. US190 and SH6 will be monitored and treated as personnel and materials are available. Additional sites have been located by THP personnel and will be communicated with TxDOT for additional treatment if supplies are available. TxDOT Waco District completed pre-treatment of northbound and southbound IH35 in Hill, McLennan, Falls and Bell Counties Thursday evening. Per drivetexas.org the following roads in Lampasas County were reported to have snowy/icy conditions: SH190, County Road (CR) 1715; CR 580; and CR 2527 (No road closures or traffic delays.)

Bell County: The following warming stations/shelters are located within the county at the following locations:

City of Temple – Transformation Station, 503 East Central Avenue (men) remains in operation from 5PM to 9AM.

City of Killeen - Killeen Community Center, 2201 East Veterans Memorial Boulevard remains in operation.

DDC 18 San Antonio (Includes Gillespie, Kerr, Kendall, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Frio and Medina Counties)

Gillespie County: Gillespie County has three volunteer fire departments (Willow City, Doss and Fredericksburg) whose stations were manned Friday night and will continue to be manned through Saturday. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) had an extra crew on board Friday night and this will continue through Saturday. Fredericksburg Police Department will be augmented with four-wheel drive vehicles, and Fredericksburg Public Works Department have people on standby with trucks loaded and ready to go. TxDOT began staffing Friday night and will continue staffing through Saturday. The Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) will be on duty and throughout the event and will recommend activation of the EOC if necessary.

**STATE AGENCY REPORTS
TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS**

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) - District Coordinators have been coordinating with state agencies, voluntary agencies, and local jurisdictions as needed.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): DPS Highway Patrol is monitoring the situation and is prepared to respond if needed.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD will continue to monitor the situation.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT crews in West Texas continued treating roads and overpasses in impacted areas of the state still experiencing some icy road conditions.

Texas Military Forces (TMF): TMF is monitoring and standing by.

Texas Forest Service (TFS): TFS provided 2 motor graders to support TxDOT Abilene District and 2 motor graders to support Eastland. Two TFS personnel were assigned to the State Operations Center. The four motor graders have been released by TxDOT and the two TFS personnel assigned to the SOC are returning to their duty station.

Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC): PUC contacted utility companies for information on any outages due to winter weather conditions. All companies reported that there are no significant outages. They also contacted the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) for information regarding power grids. ERCOT advised that there are no significant problems and that they continue to monitor weather conditions.

American Red Cross (ARC): The ARC has shelters identified in each county/city in DDC 03 Wichita Falls and DDC 07 Abilene and is prepared to open them if necessary.

The Salvation Army (TSA): TSA located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls expanded its hours to a 24-hour operation due to extreme winter temperatures. They also have expanded their hours to a 24-hour operation at 1726 Butternut in Abilene, due to extreme winter temperatures.

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) held a winter weather conference call with the National Weather Service and State agency representatives at 10AM this morning. Additional conference calls will be scheduled as needed. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed. The SOC will return to Level IV (Normal Conditions) effective at noon this afternoon, 10 January 2015.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the DEM Homepage at: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

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